

ABSTRACT

A mechanism for retrieving, examining, formatting, and forwarding information content as a service to a user on an individual level. A data worker focused on the needs of an individual user of a network (e.g., a mobile device of a wireless network) sends data events to destinations so that they will query a particular data source through a data source interface module. Upon an event determined from content obtained from said data source, periodically, on demand, etc., as determined by the individual user, content data is retrieved from a data source under the automatic control of the data worker, and forwarded to the user at one or more destination. Data sources can include, e.g., web pages, databases, XML documents, and Email (IMAP) accounts, legacy relational databases, news, notes, vCalendar, etc. Information can be directed to any type destination, e.g., to Email accounts, wireless devices via a short message services, databases, or other special handlers. A filter destination forwards information (as received or as modified) to another destination(s) in accordance with, e.g., a set of rules (e.g., according to the time of day), based on content in the received information, etc. An individual user may determine how the information is presented at the destination. The infoserver may utilize JDBC, XML, XSL, RMI, SMTP, and/or other protocols for retrieving, manipulating, presenting, and/or delivering information. The infoserver provides a mechanism for converting various types of information, from various sources, into a consistent XML representation. The infoserver provides an object-oriented styles event-based notification system for alerting software components that Information should be accessed. The infoserver preferably uses XSL technology to format XML data in ways appropriate for the destination.